

International Food Protection Issues PDG Meeting

Attendees: Ian Jenson (Chair), Deann Benesh (Vice Chair), Jennifer Acuff, Sultan Al Taher, Keith Amoroso, Bassam Annous, Peter Ben Embarek, Bob Brackett, Marion Castle, James Cook, Roger Cook, Sally Crowley, Heidi Den Besten, Nicola Dermer, Maria Teresa Destro, Francisco Diez-Gonzalez, Carianne Endert-Klaasen, Emilio Esteban, Francisco Garces Vega, Austin Gast, Tim Gillam, Leon Gorris, Fabiana Guglielmo, Arie Havelaar, Sunee Himathongkham, Lijun Hu, William Huntley, John Jarosh, Tony Jin, Ernest Julian, Issmat Kassem, Kali Kniel, Vanee Komolprasert, Barbara Kowalczyk, Bobby Krishna, Keith Lampel, Ivonne Litwin, Gilma Luna Cortés, Brittany Magdovitz, Deon Mahoney, Alejandro Mazzotta, David Melka, Rosetta Newsome, Leonard Ogomo, Haley Oliver, Ruth Petran, Allen Saylor, Jason Scheffler, Jenny Scott, Nicola Sharman, Juliana Simone, Manpreet Singh, Marianne Solomotis, Eric Stevens, Harshavardhan Thippareddi, Ewen Todd, Akhila Vasan, Carol Wallace, Jason Wan, E. Noelia Williams, Guodong Zhang, Tong Zhao, Kang Zhou, and Marcel Zwietering.

Number of Attendees: 64.

Meeting Called to Order: 2:30 p.m., Saturday, July 20, 2019.

Minutes Recording Secretary: DeAnn Benesh, incoming Vice Chairperson.

1. Welcome and Introductions:

- Leon Gorris opened the meeting and welcomed the PDG members and guests. Leon explained that his term as Chairperson had come to an end and that Ian Jenson now would become the Chair of the PDG, and that DeAnn Benesh had been elected by the PDG members as the new Vice Chairperson.
- Ian Jenson assumed the role of Chairperson, and thanked Leon for his commitment to the PDG in his time as Chair.
- Roger Cook, Board Liaison, welcomed everyone to Louisville on behalf of the IAFP Board. He highlighted a few new things: Webinars will now be offered FREE – no need to find sponsors to support their funding, so we are encouraged to initiate more Webinars. Also, encouraged was the use of the IAFP Connect social media platform.
- Ian reminded the participants of the purpose of the meeting and presented the anti-trust guidelines and the proposed agenda.
- Attendees briefly introduced themselves.

2. Review of Agenda – Call for additional items

- Ian called for any additional items for the agenda. Roger Cook commented that it would be great to have Regulatory updates from other countries not on the agenda, but present in the room.
- Ian commented – the Board accepted our request to extend the PDG meeting to 3 hours, but we missed this point when setting this year's agenda. We will extend the meeting time in future meetings.

Old Business:

3. Discussion/Adoption of the 2018 PDG Meeting Minutes:

- The minutes of the 2018 PDG meeting were accepted as printed in *FPT*. (Motion to accept Ewen Todd, seconded by Deon Mahoney.) Accepted.

New Business:

4. Overview of IAFP 2019 program (Symposia and other Sessions of PDG relevance):

- An overview of the program was provided by Ian. Sessions of international interest were highlighted for each day – those either initiated by this PDG or that have an international aspect to them.

5. Short Updates on Food Safety developments from around the world:

- The Chairpersons had invited PDG members on the roster prior to the meeting to present an update.
- Kang Zhou from FAO spoke about how low to middle income countries are affected the most by food safety concerns because they can also have issues with trade laws, their ability to handle illness when it occurs, etc. The 1st FAO/WHO/AU International Conference on Food Safety was held in February in Ethiopia: theme – Future of Food Safety; and the International Forum on Food Safety and Trade in Geneva, Switzerland on 23–24 April 2019. The two international events brought together more than 1,500 food safety leaders from over 140 national governments and agencies, academia, international organizations and the private sector. They highlighted the integral role of food safety in achieving the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, as well as in supporting the UN Decade of Action on Nutrition. An Annex will be posted in IAFP Connect for Further information.
- Peter Ben-Embarek from WHO, provided an update of activities of the International Food Safety Authority Network (INFOSAN). Greater than 100 food safety events were coordinated by INFOSAN and because of food chains and exportation, all involve more than 1 country. A Microbiological Risk Assessment Series for Micro and Chemical has been published. And, JEMRA's focus: STEC, *V. parahemolyticus* and *V. vulnificus* in seafoods, Micro risk assessment methodology update, micro water safety and quality. mobilize countries to put FS on their agenda's.
- Bob Brackett, Director of IFSH, provided an update on FSPCA. The alliance was to come up with a standardized curriculum of FSMA requirements training for the industry – first for the Preventive Control rule, now for ALL rules. A technical assistance network has been

initiated to answer questions from industry and there are plans to grow this group of experts internationally. Training has mainly been conducted in the U.S., Canada, China, Australia, Latin America, some European countries, and more needs to be done in Africa.

- Jason Wan announced the 5th APAC Food Safety International Conference – will be held in Hong Kong, November 4–5, 2019 (held every 3 years). There is a flyer about this in conference bag.
- Barbara Kowalczyk, from Ohio State University, provided an update on Food Safety initiatives funded by the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation and United Kingdom AID (UKAID). The call was for approaches that would help low-middle income projects (mostly Africa and SEA). Four, 4-year projects focused in Ethiopia, 2 in other African countries. Asked for all projects to overlap and coordinate with each other. TATARE: Looking at *Salmonella*, EHEC, *Campylobacter* in raw beef and raw dairy – look at the value chains and interventions. FOCAL: EPI surveillance and control; ENSURE: prevalence of safe and quality on milk and dairy products. Pull-Push: increase consumer demand to reduce burden of disease – 2 value chains (poultry and vegetables).
- Issmat Kassem, from the American University of Beirut provided a talk about Antimicrobial Resistance (AMR). Resistance is increasing and there aren't many alternatives in the pipeline. We are using larger quantities of anti-biotics in food animal production than for human medicine. It is a global problem, because resistance moves with food, water, animals, and people. Issamat will work to prepare a session on this topic for next year's IAFP.
- Fabiana Guglielmono, Unilever, Argentina provided an overview of the 6th Symposium IAFP Latino 2019, held in Buenos Aires. Statistics from the Symposium: 8 lectures, 8 roundtables, 26 international speakers, 73 posters, 15 booths, 563 attending from 10 countries. It can be financially challenging for scientists from Latin America to be able to come to U.S., so these regional meetings are essential.
- Marcel Zwietering, mentioned and ICMSF Youtube Channel that has trainings available – some with have subtitles in several languages. There are 10 movies, each about 8 mins time. If you would like uploaded to another site, or wanted to add subtitles in your language, let him know.

- Marion Castle from New Zealand Food Safety Authority provides an update – their Food safety strategy has been updated, and they just finished implementation of newest food act. The new strategy has a focus on key organisms.

6. IAFP 2020 Symposia:

- Preparing submissions to the program committee for IAFP's 2020 Annual meeting in Cleveland, Ohio (2–5 August, 2020) were discussed after highlighting what formats (Symposia, Roundtables, Technical Sessions, Workshops) were available. Ideally, proposals were on topics new and timely for IAFP and supported by multiple PDGs. Ian and DeAnn to start networking with other PDGs on Tuesday (breakfast of PDG leads). IAFP's deadline for full online submissions is October 1, 2019.
- This year 200 sessions were submitted and 88 accepted – for this PDG, 9 were submitted, 5 were accepted.
- There was discussion of what topics not accepted from last year and suggestions from membership survey could be taken forward as well as what new ideas were possible.
- Attendees were encouraged to work within the PDG and across PDG with others to join and develop the proposal ideas, and to look for topics that are of international significance and find international speakers.
- Proposers were requested to inform Ian and DeAnn of their proposal ideas (lead contact; other proposers; title; 2–3 line description; format; other relevant PDG) by Monday afternoon.
- The following proposals ideas were suggested:
 - Locating the root cause of *Salmonella*, *Listeria*, O157 in produce (it was mentioned that there is a CODEX group working on STEC attribution focused on red meat, dairy, produce – so there may have more information coming out of that for a session in 2021).
 - GMPs and hygienic zoning (monitoring) – regulatory codes of practice already out there. Correlating practices and PPE with zones vs overall plants.
 - Microorganisms – Africa and other countries.
 - Roundtable on the complexity of international foodborne outbreaks.
 - Transitions from science to regulatory implementation – how this is approached in other parts of the globe.
 - Model developed from the work in Africa that could be packaged and transferred to other parts of the world, like Asia, and Latin America. Transfer from higher income to lower income, but the cultural aspects need to be considered (eating raw beef). Lessons learned might be an interesting symposium. Approach can be disseminated but will differ based on social/cultural aspects.
 - Middle East/Mediterranean region: issues and initiatives.

7. PDG activities:

- Ian provided some information on the IAFP Connect website to allow members to communicate through the year (about 30% of room had used).
- List your suggestions on the IAFP Connect page to help solicit more input from other members.
- Ian proposed a project: the use of the PDG section of IAFP Connect to collect and share country profile information on food regulatory systems in each country. Ian has created a 2-pager of this for Australia. He encouraged others to put this together with a few people in your country. Ian will put up a template for use and provide Australia as an example for others to follow.

8. Any Other Business:

- Ian reminded members that they can directly update their PDG affiliations online. All they need to do is log onto the IAFP website; click Edit Profile on the Member Dashboard, then the Professional Info tab. Select the PDG to join.
- Mentor program – matching students with industry professionals. If you would like to be a mentor, let Brittney Magdovitz (Student Liaison) or the Student PDG know.
- Webinar – perhaps a small group could sit together and work on webinar development for the PDG. Leon volunteered to lead this... additional ideas can be communicated via IAFP Connect to bring them to encourage others to participate and support.
- Translation – consideration for future IAFP meetings? Many presentations are recorded and there is software now for translation. Would need to ID that ppt that would be of largest interest. How to make our material more international. Many posters that are brought from other countries are created in their own language and then translated when they bring them – so they may already be available in other languages.
- Recruit more students from international to become members how to do? Create mentorship for those students who cannot afford to attend? – student awards for travel. IAFP foundation – increasing number of students that are sponsored, and anyone can apply.
- African affiliate meeting next week: Roger will take back to the Board. Start raising the issue of leftover copies of *Journal of Food Protection* to Africa. Start putting forward ideas on IAFP Connect.
- U.S. regulatory update on Monday – other suggestions/thoughts about how there updates that include other country updates platform – put on IAFP Connect your ideas of what you think would be the way to do this?

Recommendations to Executive Board:

1. That DeAnn Benesh be approved as Vice Chair of the PDG beginning at IAFP 2019.

Next Meeting Date: August 1, 2020 in Cleveland, Ohio.

Meeting Adjourned: 5.00 p.m.

Chairperson: Ian Jenson.

